SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK **A5249**

	3					8		5
6		2	5	8				7
4			3		6			2
		5	2				8	4
	6				1	3		
			9					
	2	7	4	1				
			6		2			
		6	7				9	

TRICKY **B5249**

	3		2				6	
			1	6				4
4		7	8					
3	8	5	6			2		
				1	5			7
		9		7			8	
					1	9	2	
					6		1	

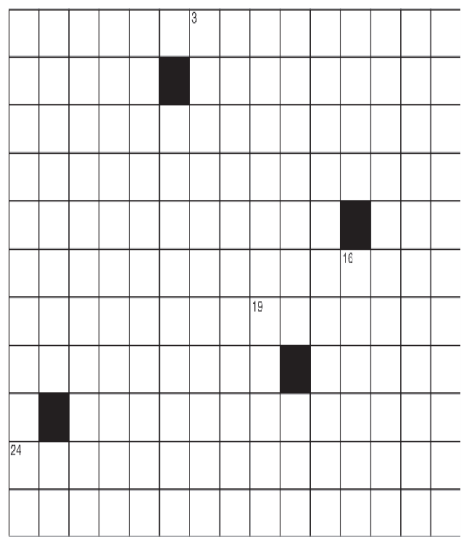
To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerous strategies to help you solve sudoku. For hints and information visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Created by Peter Ritmeester (C) PZZL.com

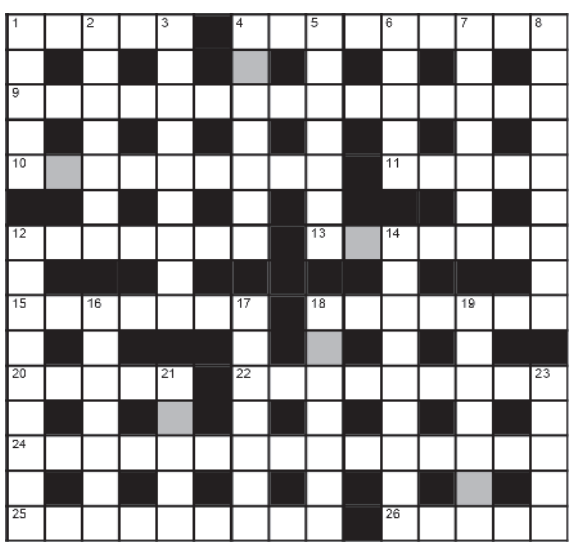
THE SKELETON CROSSWORD

ACROSS
2 Casual Latin in church?
7 Sacrifice in the name of progress
8 Teignmouth post remaining open
10 Struck, a follower fell
11 Some of them beg after final glower
12 Actress coming from dress circle
13 Great pitch for a stripper
15 Dull German really losing everything
16 Long piece of fruit chosen?
17 Wading bird that's part gull
21 Tool found after daft searcher ends search
22 Insect's form one minute earlier
23 Shadow leads to genuine annoyance
24 Legend breaking a strap rule
25 Much less content Anglo-Saxon girl
26 Drama articles tire one out

DOWN
1 Tricky sort of blimp to race
2 Horse right next to a snake
3 Plant wan insider afforded
4 Positive American's frankness has no end (Hyphenated)
5 Perhaps party girl's back – back to stay
6 Unhappy target rebel put out
7 Soldiers aboard a military aircraft or vessel
9 Shoe motto surprisingly palatable
14 Non-drinker getting a round in a little drunk?
17 Pointless sandwich not consumed
18 Bill Bailey's double served food
19 Particular old piece of legislation
20 A relative fine with Middle Earth



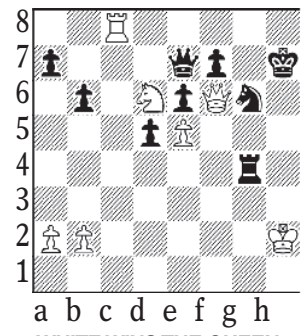
THE SQUIRE'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Rock face (5)
4 Gazelles, e.g. (9)
9 Unspecified people (3,4,3,5)
10 Impassioned Greek hymn (9)
11 Cost as much as (3,2)
12 Hot condiment (7)
13 Trade stoppage (7)
15 Burns unsteadily (7)
18 A person (7)
20 Foul shot in snooker (2-3)
22 Youth, child (9)
24 Defying articulation (15)
25 Set aside (for) (9)
26 Remain behind (5)

DOWN
1 Quoted (5)
2 Residents of an institution (7)
3 Magical (9)
4 Clumsy (7)
5 Possible to hold or defend (7)
6 Franz ___, Hungarian composer (5)
7 Associate (7)
8 Message received (3,2,4)
12 Size, scope (9)
14 Do as you like (2,2,5)
16 Cavalry soldier (7)
17 Shakespeare usurer (7)
18 Rebuffed (7)
19 Autumn month (7)
21 Plant life (5)
23 Thin and piping (5)

CHESS



WHITE WINS THE QUEEN
HINT: Divert its defender.

WORD GAME

By Kathleen Saxe

▼ TODAY'S WORD
GOLDSMITH

(GOLDSMITH: GOLD-smith: One who makes or deals in articles of gold.)

AVERAGE MARK 39 WORDS
Time limit 60 minute
Can you find 59 or more words in GOLDSMITH?

RULES OF THE GAME:
1. Words must be of four or more letters.
2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s," such as "bats" or "dies," are not allowed.
3. Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used.
4. Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed.
The list will be published tomorrow.

SOLUTIONS

YESTERDAY'S WORD — TANTALIZE

tail	tint	nail	lean
taint	titan	natal	lent
tale	title	neat	lien
talent	alien	lain	line
teal	alit	lanai	lint
teat	anile	lane	lite
tent	anta	late	inlet
tile	ante	laten	zeal
tilt	anti	latent	zein
tine	atilt	latte	elan
tinea	attain	laze	entail

HELP

EMERGENCIES

Police Help	15, 99212652-53
CPLC	1102, 35662222
Fire Brigade	16, 99215007
Bomb Disposal	99212674
KE Complaints	118
PTCL Complaints	1218
Railway Inquiry	99213565-66
PCAA Flight Inquiry	99071284, 99071259
	99071265, 114

HOSPITALS

Abbasi Shaheed	99260400-09
Civil Hospital	99215740, 9215960
Jinnah Hospital	99201300-99201301
NICVD	99201271-6
Aga Khan Hospital	34930051
Medicare Hospital	021-111- 001-786
Kharadar Gen Hospital	32510113-16
Indus Hospital	35112709
Tabba	36811841, 111844844
Ziauddin Hospital	35862937-9, 36648237-9
Kiran Cancer Hospital	99261601-04
Liaquat National	111-456-456, 34939615
Memon Medical	34691147 — 54
A.O. Clinic	36685564, 3668550-64
Baqai Hospital	36618396, 36618398
Holy Family Hospital	32258994, 32258991
Patel Hospital	111174174
South City Hospital	35374072
Kidney Centre Institute	35661000-10
Karwan-e-Hayat	021-111534111
Usman Memorial	021-36310311-15

AMBULANCE

Edhi	115, 32310066
Chhipa	1020
SIEHS/Rescue	1122
St.John	32250500, 32250600
Red Crescent	35306227, 35306228

BLOOD BANK

Fatmid	32225284, 32258656
Husaini	32238405-08
PWA (Civil)	99215740, 99215959

TELEWORD

By David Ouellet

S	N	O	I	N	O	P	S	U	E	E	F	F	O	C
S	T	E	E	C	I	L	S	M	V	C	C	L	H	Y
T	L	P	V	K	W	I	M	R	N	I	U	C	R	P
O	A	F	O	O	T	B	A	L	L	N	A	A	A	I
R	S	G	B	T	T	C	Y	R	C	N	M	R	S	E
R	E	R	R	S	P	A	A	H	I	E	T	O	U	S
A	I	A	Y	A	T	G	T	P	S	Y	E	L	P	T
C	R	N	V	O	N	U	S	O	U	N	N	L	P	U
D	R	D	A	T	S	D	R	S	P	D	I	S	E	F
E	E	M	R	A	E	O	P	K	E	T	D	K	R	F
Z	B	A	G	M	A	S	H	A	E	L	E	I	S	I
A	N	E	A	S	A	V	O	R	Y	Y	P	E	N	N
L	A	E	T	R	E	S	S	E	D	I	E	P	W	G
G	R	E	E	N	B	E	A	N	S	D	A	L	A	S
C	C	O	R	N	B	R	E	A	D	R	I	N	K	S

HOW TO PLAY:

All the words above appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and circle their letters. The leftover letters spell the Teleword.

THANKSGIVING DINNER **SOLUTION: 10 LETTERS**

Apples, Bowls, Carve, Coffee, Cornbread, Cranberries, Creamed Spinach, Dessert, Dine, Drinks, Football, Garlic, Glazed Carrots, Grandma, Grandpa, Gravy, Green Beans, Lunch, Mash, Onions, Oven, Party, Pies, Pudding, Roast, Rolls, Rosemary, Sage, Salad, Salt, Sauce, Savory, Skin, Slice, Stuffing, Supper, Sweet Potato, Toast, Turkey, Yams **Answer: Pumpkin Pie**

METRO EVENTS

PET SHOW

A pet show is being organised at Port Grand at 6pm.

RECITAL

'Darsgah: End of Year Recital' at the National Institute of Performing Arts, at 6:30pm.

BOOK LAUNCH

Fever Log and Other Stories, a book by Peerzada Salman, is launched as part of Adab Festival, at Habitt City, Tipu Sultan Road, at 2pm.

WORKSHOP

A dance workshop by Nighat Chaudhry is organised as part of the World Culture Festival, at Studio 2, Arts Council of Pakistan, at 3pm.

BOOK TALK

Mian Raza Rabbani's book, *The Smile Snatchers: A Timeless Tale of Children, Resistance and Hope in Gaza*, is launched as part of Adab Festival, at Habitt City, Tipu Sultan Road, at 7pm.

HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

ARIES | March 21-April 19

**** Roll up your sleeves and face the paperwork that's been collecting dust regarding taxes, debt, inheritances, wills, insurance matters and all those red-tape issues we love to ignore. You can make great progress. Tonight: You're respected. This Week: Travel or do something different!

TAURUS | April 20-May 20

**** A discussion with someone close will be intense. Put your cards on the table. Be ready to compromise. Ditto for the other person. Have the talk. Tonight: Learn. This Week: Take care of financial loose ends. Clean things up.

GEMINI | May 21-June 20

**** This is a productive day. You intend to get a lot done, primarily because you want to make improvements to your health and the way you do your job. Tonight: Check your finances. This Week: Get more sleep. Focus on partners and close friends.

CANCER | June 21-July 22

*** Deep, meaningful discussions with romantic partners might take place today. Some will have the same intense discussion with your kids. Either way, your objective is to make an improvement to the way things are. Tonight: Listen. This Week: It's a productive week! You're keen to work and improve your health.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 22

**** Today you'll be successful making changes to your immediate environment and reforming circumstances that you've been putting up with for too long. Just do it. Tonight: Work. This Week: Socialize and enjoy the arts, sports and fun activities with kids.

VIRGO | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

**** Like LEO, you can make great improvements to your everyday environment. However, you also might have a powerful discussion with someone in the hopes of getting them on board. Tonight: Socialize. This Week: Home, family and your private life are your focus.

LIBRA | Sept. 23-Oct. 22

*** Today you have a wonderful advantage of cleaning up some kind of financial situation that has become disordered or confused. Good luck! Tonight: Relax. This Week: An accelerated pace! Things to do, places to go, people to see.

SCORPIO | Oct. 23-Nov. 21

**** Look around you today to see what needs to be done to make some fast and quick improvements. Reorganize what you want to keep -- at least in tidy piles. Clean the place up. Recycle, sell and give away what you don't want. Tonight: Discussions. This Week: Ponder your values and your assets. How do things look?

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 22-Dec. 21

***** Today you will do some deep thinking, especially about the aspects of life that don't seem to be adequate. You want to get to the bottom of whatever problem it is you're working on and investigate it with thoroughness. Tonight: Check your money. This Week: You are blessed because you're in charge!

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

**** You might have to confront the power of a group today or one powerful person. See if you can realign your goals to dovetail with theirs, or vice versa. Tonight: You're strong. This Week: Enjoy privacy. Make goals for the next year.

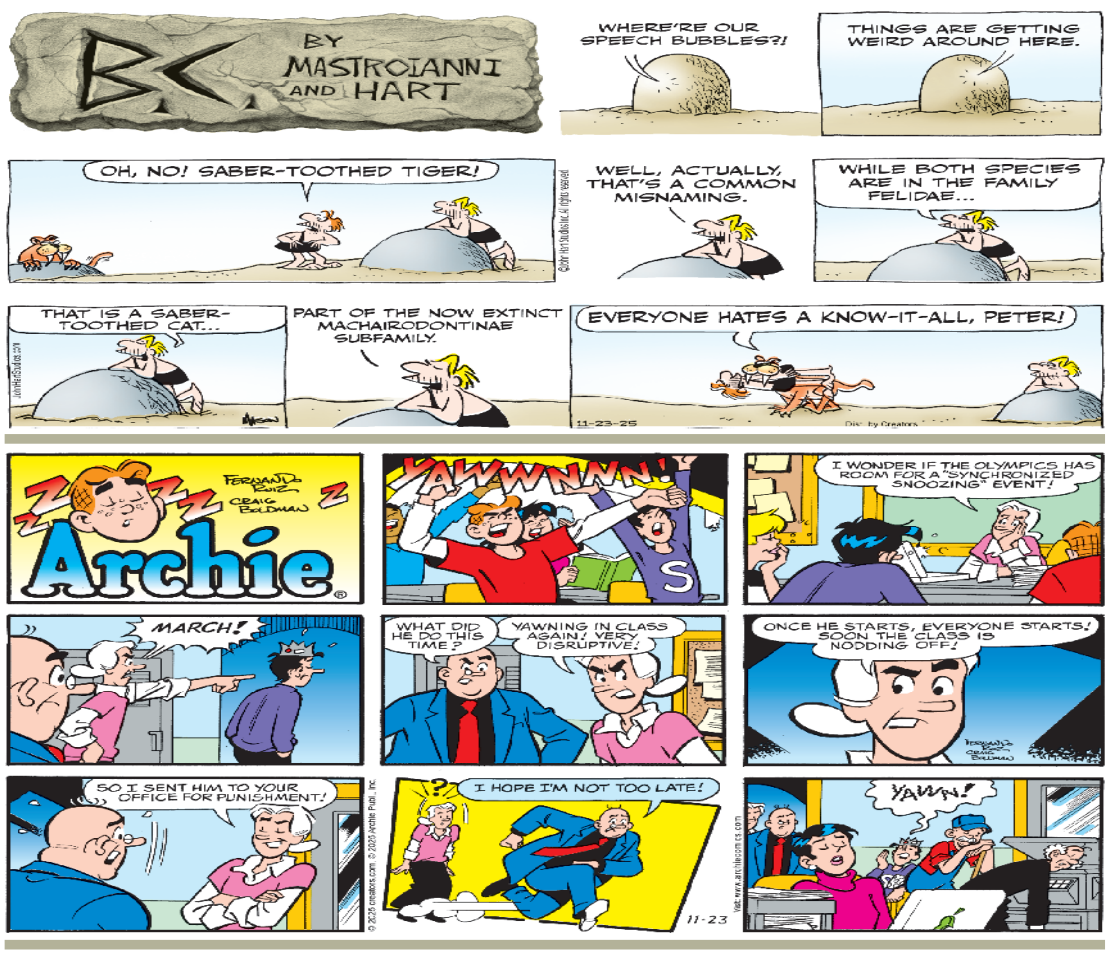
AQUARIUS | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

**** Don't challenge authority figures today. However, you will have to show respect, because this is the classic day for wielding creative power, preferably for the good. Try to influence anyone in power (or use your own power) to make something better. Tonight: Privacy. This Week: Your popularity increases! Be friendly.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

**** Profound philosophies and ideas will appeal to you today because you want to seek an ideology or a system of thought that makes the world a better place, better for everyone. This is the day to try to do this. No question. Tonight: Friendships. This Week: You go for what you want!

THE METRO FUNNIES


B.C. BY MASTROIANNI AND HART
WHERE'RE OUR SPEECH BUBBLES?!
THINGS ARE GETTING WEIRD AROUND HERE.
OH, NO! SABER-TOOTHED TIGER!
WELL, ACTUALLY, THAT'S A COMMON MISNAMING.
WHILE BOTH SPECIES ARE IN THE FAMILY FELIDAE...
THAT IS A SABER-TOOTHED CAT...
PART OF THE NOW EXTINCT MACHAIRODONTINAE SUBFAMILY.
EVERYONE HATES A KNOW-IT-ALL, PETER!
11-23-25
Archie
YAWWNNN!
I WONDER IF THE OLYMPICS HAS ROOM FOR A "SYNCHRONIZED SNOOZING" EVENT!
MARCH!
WHAT DID HE DO THIS TIME?
YAWNING IN CLASS AGAIN! VERY DISRUPTIVE!
ONCE HE STARTS, EVERYONE STARTS! SOON THE CLASS IS NODDING OFF!
SO I SENT HIM TO YOUR OFFICE FOR PUNISHMENT!
I HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE!
YAWN!
11-23
WIZARD OF ID
by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker
MORNING.
IT IS.
THAT'S AN INTERESTING PTERODACTYL.
BEEN GONE A WHILE, BUD! WHERE YOU BEEN OFF TO?

PENTALETTA

I		G
	N	
T		E

Can you find 25 or more words containing only the five letters shown on the left? Each word must include the letter in the centre, in this case N, and must contain at least four letters, but there is no limit on the number of times you can use a letter in any word. Your list should include an accepting eight-letter word.

(Solution: next Sunday)

Average mark: 20 words • **Good:** 25 words
Excellent: 30 words • **Incredible:** 33 words

LAST SUNDAY'S SOLUTION:

eons, esse, hens, hoes, hones, hose, hoses, ness, noes, nones, noons, noose, nooses, nose, noses, nosh, noshes, oneness, ones, oohs, seen, sees, sense, senses, sheen, sheens, shoe, shoes, shone, shoo, shoos, sones, sons, soon.

The clued word was: NONSENSE

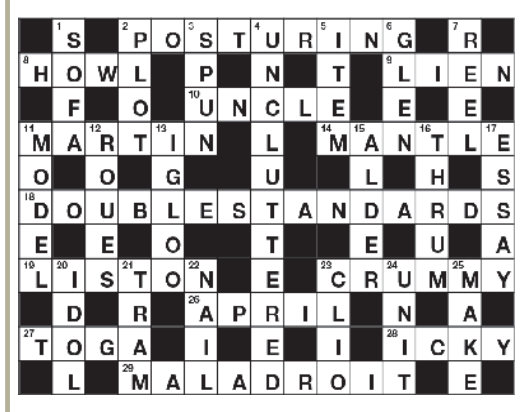
LAST SUNDAY SQUIRE'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Claim, 4 Swellings, 9 The Invisible Man, 10 Provender, 11 Canal, 12 Presume, 13 Mudflat, 15 Askance, 18 Section, 20 Tests, 22 Preserved, 24 Strait of Messina, 25 Delighted, 26 Dress.

Down: 1 Cut up, 2 Anemone, 3 Mannequin, 4 Swindle, 5 Epigram, 6 Lilac, 7 Nominal, 8 Singleton, 12 Practised, 14 Decreased, 16 Kestrel, 17 Exploit, 18 Steamed, 19 Invoice, 21 Sting, 23 Dials.

Prize word: Infant

LAST SUNDAY SKELETON SOLUTIONS



TODAY'S SOLUTIONS

CHESS

1. Rh8ch! Nxh8 2. Qxe7! [Buckley-Hennigan '99].

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU

Quick — A5248

8	5	4	2	6	3	7	9	1
7	9	2	5	1	4	8	6	3
1	6	3	7	8	9	5	2	4
5	1	6	9	4	2	3	7	8
4	2	7	8	3	5	9	1	6
3	8	9	6	7	1	4	5	2
6	7	1	3	5	8	2	4	9
9	4	8	1	2	7	6	3	5
2	3	5	4	9	6	1	8	7

Tricky — B5248

9	7	6	5	1	2	3	8	4
1	2	4	3	9	8	5	6	7
3	8	5	4	7	6	2	9	1
8	1	7	6	3	5	9	4	2
5	9	3	2	4	7	8	1	6
4	6	2	1	8	9	7	5	3
2	4	8	9	6	3	1	7	5
6	5	9	7	2	1	4	3	8
7	3	1	8	5	4	6	2	9

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bidding Quiz

By Steve Becker

The practical side of bridge

West dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 10 9
♥ 8 5
♦ A 7 4
♣ A Q 7 6 2

WEST
♠ 8 5 3
♥ K 9 6 2
♦ Q 10 3
♣ J 10 4

EAST
♠ 7 6 2
♥ Q J 4 3
♦ K 6 5 2
♣ K 9

SOUTH
♠ A K J 4
♥ A 10 7
♦ J 9 8
♣ 8 5 3

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 NT

Opening lead -- two of hearts.

Assume you're in three notrump and West leads the heart deuce. It's not difficult to make the contract if you see the East-West cards. All you have to do is win the heart with the ace and play the A-2 of clubs. Nine tricks, easy as pie.

But making three notrump is not that easy if you see only the North-South hands. You might, for example, win the third heart and finesse the queen of clubs. East would win with the king and return a heart, and whichever defender won the heart would probably shift to a diamond. Eventually, you'd go down two.

However, there is a much better way to play the hand, if you put your mind to it. To begin with, you note that West's opening lead is the deuce of hearts. If West is a player who leads fourth-best, it is reasonable to assume that he and East each have four hearts. On this basis, therefore, you should win the opening heart lead with the ace.

Your next play is also important. You should lead a low spade to dummy's nine and return the deuce of clubs! In the actual deal, there is a good chance that East will go up with the king -- rightly or not -- and thereby hand you the contract.

The point is that by leading a low club from dummy at trick three, instead of taking an immediate finesse, you give East the chance to make a mistake if he has the doubleton king of clubs. And the more opportunities you give the defenders to make a mistake, the more likely they are to oblige.

Of course, if your low club play from dummy loses to the nine, ten or jack, you can still try the club finesse when you regain the lead.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.

WEATHER

Sunset & Sunrise

	Hyderabad	Islamabad	Karachi	Lahore	Peshawar	Quetta
Sunset	05:37pm	05:04pm	05:43pm	05:02pm	05:09pm	05:38pm
Sunrise	06:48am	06:44am	06:53am	06:36am	06:51am	07:00am

Three Day Forecast

	Today				Tomorrow			Day After		
	Min	Max	Outlook	Humidity%	Min	Max	Outlook	Min	Max	Outlook
Faisalabad	11	25	Sunny	59	10	25	Sunny	9	24	Sunny
Hyderabad	13	30	Sunny	46	13	29	Sunny	19	29	Sunny
Islamabad	9	23	Sunny	34	8	22	Sunny	8	23	Sunny
Lahore	11	25	Sunny	66	10	24	Sunny	9	24	Sunny
Multan	11	27	Sunny	67	10	26	Sunny	10	25	Sunny
Peshawar	8	22	Sunny	59	7	22	Sunny	7	22	Sunny
Quetta	7	16	Sunny	39	2	16	Sunny	2	17	Sunny

Temperature estimates are internationally sourced and may differ from local estimates.